



# The Southwester

Serving the Southwest and Capitol Riverfront Communities

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Patty Stimmel, from Patty Stimmel Floral Designs in Arlington, arranges a hat for her design inspired by Velma's dress from Arena Stage's 2009 production of *Crowns*.



Janet Flowers arranges her display from Janet Flowers Wedding and Event Designs in Washington, D.C. Photos by Teresa Wood



Jill Medawar from Toulies en Fleur in Washington, D.C. arranges her display.

## Contest Blooms at Arena

Fifteen local florists competed in "Isn't She Lovely: Design in Bloom," a costume-inspired floral arrangement contest at Arena Stage in celebration of Eliza Doolittle, the Cockney flower girl in *My Fair Lady*, playing at the

Fichandler until Jan. 6.

Each florist was paired with a signature costume from a past Arena Stage production and

received information about the character who wore the costume and the production in which it was featured.

Florists arrived early Nov. 30, to arrange and put up their displays. In the afternoon, Molly Smith, Barbara Harrison from WRC4, and JC Hayward from WUSA9 arrived to make their decisions about the winners of the contest. The arrangements were on display throughout the weekend.

## Big Gains in Amidon-Bowen Test Scores

By Kara Kuchemba

Amidon-Bowen Elementary School, under the supervision of Principal Izabela Miller, has just recently completed the second round of Paced Interim Assessments (PIA). These assessments measure progress toward mastery of the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics. By all accounts, the school, which is in its second year of restructuring, is making progress.

The majority of the students showed gains in both their English Language Arts (ELA) and Math scores. Most of these gains were significant, which means that a student's individual score rose 10 or more percentage points.

Amidon-Bowen tested a total of 114 students

See related story, page 2

in the Math PIA. Eighty-two students out of the 114 (72%) showed gains in their average performance. Two second grade students attained a perfect score of 100 percent on the math assessment. English Language Arts test scores have also seen an increase. A total of 119 students were tested in ELA. Seventy-seven students (61%) of the total group showed gains on their ELA assessment.

These gains can be attributed to the school's continued focus on implementing the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts

See "Test Scores," page 2

## D.C. Government Looking Into Local Taxes

By Dale MacIver

Mayor Gray and the Council have appointed 10 persons to the DC Tax Revision Commission which will be reporting back to the DC Council in mid-2013. A hearing for public witnesses was held on Dec. 3.

Former Mayor Anthony Williams is Chair of the Commission.

The Commission has issued the following 2013 dates on which possible changes to various D.C. taxes will be considered:

Jan. 7 – Tax abatements and tax expenditures (deductions and exemptions)

May 6 – Retail Sales Tax, including present exemptions of nonprofits

May 20 – Real Property Tax, residential and commercial

June 3 – Tax-exempt Nonprofits possibly paying "Payments-in-lieu-of taxes."

June 3 – Property Tax Exceptions and Deductions

The DC Tax Revision Commission has a website, [www.dctaxrevisioncommission.org](http://www.dctaxrevisioncommission.org), which houses copies of research material, time schedule, statements by Commission members and testimony from the 14 witnesses at the Dec. 3 hearing. Its address is W770, 1101 Fourth St. SW, Washington, D.C. 20024, phone (202) 352-5513.

■ Dale MacIver is the former long-time editor of *The Southwester*.



Proud participants and supporters at the Computer for Kids Graduation.

## Computers, Kids, Graduation and Southwest

By Kael Anderson

Before I joined the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (Assembly) nearly four years ago, I had never heard of Computer for Kids, much less why I might care about it. And even then, I considered it a marginal program, "graduating" just a handful of kids—kids I'd quite likely never meet. "Graduating" to me meant a day-long ceremony in front of hundreds of my peers, commenced upon the conclusion of multiple years at an accredited institution. And certainly I'd heard of mentoring programs—the national and city-wide program like Boys and Girls Club—all buttressed by name-recognition and paid staff. Indeed, I had volunteered myself.

That was then, this is now.

Dec. 8 was the Youth Activities Task Force (YATF) Fall Computer for Kids Graduation. With the help of Clynthia Graham, Paul Taylor and other DPR staff, the graduation was held at the newly revitalized King-Greenleaf Recreation Center. Opening remarks were provided by Ron McBee, Thelma D. Jones and myself on behalf of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission, the

YATF and the Assembly, respectively. Instructor Frank Fu served as master of ceremonies. Qwawi Hakeem Graham, Executive Care IT Technician, US Food and Drug Administration gave a rousing keynote that nimbly mixed elements of humor, inspiration and candid tales, all while keeping both students and guests engaged. It was followed by a reception of healthy treats, compliments of YATF member Lenora Morange.

The graduation serves as the culmination of the semester long Computer for Kids Computer Training Program. The program targets Southwest youths, ages 6-13, in low-income families with limited access to computers: today's prevailing gateway to growth and opportunity. But computers are just one important tool: the program goals go well beyond computer training. Students with good behavior, good participation and good attendance receive a computer at the end of the eight-week training program which has been recently held at Syphax Gardens.

These computers—donated by Southwest residents and businesses—are refurbished by the

See "Computers," page 5



# A Busy December at Amidon-Bowen

By Meg Brinckman

Mr. Thomas' 2nd-3rd grade Math class had an opportunity to make a surprise trip to the White House on Dec. 3. Ms. Poteau, School Program Director accompanied them.

The employees of District of Columbia Regulatory Administration at 1100 Fourth St. SW, held a hat and glove drive for the students at Amidon-Bowen. A large bag of colorful items was delivered the first week of December in time for the cold weather to come. They are being distributed to the children on a need basis. Reading is Fundamental distributed books to students Dec. 11.

Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) is the nation's oldest and largest children's literacy organization. The DC RIF Initiative (DCI) project to help DC Public Schools improve youth literacy in the city was launched in 2006. For the past five years, RIF's national headquarters has provided more than 250,000 free, new books to over 50 different DC public and charter school students during three citywide book distributions each year. Every child at Amidon-Bowen got to choose a new book, at no cost to them, their families or the school.

On Dec. 12, Everybody Wins! DC and Target celebrated their 15th year at Amidon-Bowen with the annual Reading Mentors Appreciation Event in the Library. Mentors and their students enjoyed decorated "cake pops." Each student received a book to take home courtesy of Target, lead mentor Corporate Sponsor for Amidon-Bowen. The event honored the contribution of the Reading Mentors from over 18 public and private organizations to the successful Power Lunch Program.

The Scholastic Book Fair took place in the spacious foyer of the school from Dec. 12-14. Ms. Zeiler, ABES Librarian, placed a "Penny Box" in every classroom. Stu-



*Amidon-Bowen 2nd & 3rd graders in front of a White House Christmas tree.: L to R: Kareem Cook, Zaniya Gansis, Khalil Crutchfield, Bryelle Thompson, Shalissa Buttle, Derrick Moss, Aleja Fisher, Tjauna Gray, Gianna Marchall, ZaeQuan Green, Mr. Thomas. (Photo by Lavanya Poteau)*

dents contributed their spare pennies so that every child would have money to buy a book that they choose. They raised enough for a \$4.00 gift certificate for each student in grades 1 through 5.

"Toys for Tots" distributed toys to every child on Dec. 21. The Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program has raised money and collected new, unwrapped toys since 1991. In November and December they distribute them to kids in the local community in which there were donated.

■ *Meg Brinckman is a longtime contributor to The Southwester on education issues.*

## D.C. Zoning Commission News

By B.K. Lunde

The DC Zoning Commission approved the plans for Parcel 11 of the Wharf development at their Dec. 10 meeting. This parcel contains parks as well as the new building with St. Augustine Church and condominiums.

The committee also decided to delay its vote on the apartment building and retail development at the exit of the Navy Yard Metro station at 1111 New Jersey Ave. SE. This site contains the present St. Matthew's Baptist church. The committee asked for more information on preservation of a large elm tree and details about the party room on the roof of the building. ANC 6D had voted 3 to 3 to not change their lack of endorsement of this building at their November meeting.

## TEST SCORES

From p. 1

and Mathematics in grades 1-5 and the Tools of the Minds curriculum in preschool, prekindergarten and kindergarten. Students are engaged in deep thinking in both ELA and Math. ELA teachers focus on planning lessons that encourage students to employ reading strategies such as asking questions while reading in order to build meaning of the passage.

Math teachers have increased their use of manipulatives and visual models to represent math concepts in order to encourage students to build a deep conceptual knowledge of mathematical processes and ideas. Students regularly engage in writing in both ELA and Math in order to be able to practice their skills in explaining their thinking in writing.

The students and staff at Amidon-Bowen continue to focus on the school's upward trajectory in student achievement. They are confident in maintaining progress and moving forward in the next Paced Interim Assessment in March 2013.

■ *Kara Kuchemba is Instructional Coach at Amidon-Bowen Elementary School.*

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\*Source: Preventable Risk Factors Attributed to Preventable Causes of Death in the District of Columbia, 2007, Department of Health Center for Policy, Planning, and Epidemiology, State Center for Health Statistics

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Profile

George Kerr & the START Program

By Ron McBee

George Kerr is the Executive Director of START at Westminster here in Southwest. The program, which serves all district residents, is a harm-reduction, prevention and awareness initiative that was implemented in 2008. START is an acronym for Syringe, Treatment, Advocacy, Resources and Training, which reflects the core element of the harm reduction philosophy.

The mission of START is to reduce the transmissions of HIV, hepatitis and other blood borne diseases by empowering those at risk of infection with the tools, resources and referrals an individual needs to take charge of their health.

Recently, during the 26th AIDS Walk Washington, Kerr was recognized for his two decades work within the District with the prestigious “Courage Award” for his efforts, but he believes it’s the very clients START serves that keeps him doing the work that is so desperately needed. Within the District of Columbia approximately 3 percent of the city’s residents are infected with the virus. The stories of the clients Kerr hears on a daily basis are tough and each day multiple struggles are brought to Kerr’s attention. The stories and efforts of the clients START serves are what keeps Kerr going with the work that is so desperately needed. He believes in the possibility of an AIDS-free world.

Kerr believes an effective way to reduce the transmission of HIV, hepatitis and other blood borne diseases is through a needle exchange program. Currently, START does not and has not provided needles. They do give references to places that do. Even though research does show its effectiveness, needle exchange is a controversial concept that health advocates like Kerr have long

argued prevents the spread of HIV and other diseases. However, the federal funding that has been implemented to support such efforts is under threat of being prohibited, just two years after Congress lifted the 21-year ban.



George Kerr, Executive Director of START.

Since the main theme behind START is harm reduction, Kerr hopes to one day to have such services such as these available through START which would eventually provide sterile syringes to injection-drug users who are at high risk of contracting blood borne diseases. Kerr believes this would work well with the other services START currently provides including HIV counseling and testing, educational support, condom distribution and referrals for substance abuse treatment.

For START, outreach has grown tremendously because of the fact the program has a mobile unit that goes out into the community. He gives credit to a grant from the city’s HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD and TB Administration (HAHSTA). In the last two years alone, the START crew has tested nearly 1,600 people per year.

The numbers alone prove the need for harm reduction in the community is needed, so for Kerr it makes no sense to reinstate the ban on something like needle exchange programs, especially since a number of federally funded studies have shown that comprehensive syringe-exchange programs do help to prevent the spread of disease and do not increase illegal drug use. Advocates believe the threat of the ban’s reinstatement is not supported by scientific evidence and would only make matters worse.

■ Ron McBee is the ANC Commissioner for single-member district 6D03.

From The

Southwester Staff

Another new year is upon us, and as we enter 2013 it’s time to pause and recognize a few age-old traditions, whether you participate or not - making New Year’s resolutions, predicting winter weather, or confronting the numbers on the scale after a couple weeks of indulgence, just to name a few. Now, The Southwester has never been in the business of predicting the weather and this month we’re actually looking quite svelte at eight pages as opposed to the normal twelve (we expect to gain that “weight” back as the year progresses, of course), but we could use some New Year’s resolutions. We’re your community newspaper - what would you like to see The Southwester do, or co ver, or emphasize in 2013? You can send your suggestions to [editor@thesouthwester.com](mailto:editor@thesouthwester.com) - and if one of your New Year’s resolutions is to be more involved with your community, why not consider joining The Southwester team? We’d be happy to have you with us as we embark upon a new year in Southwest DC!

Correction

On page 4 of the December 2012 issue of The Southwester, we incorrectly attributed the photos that accompanied Meg Brinckman’s article “Aviation Careers Presented at Amidon-Bowen Elementary School” to Ms. Brinckman. They were in fact taken by Lydia Mercado of the U.S. Department of Transportation. We apologize to Ms. Mercado for the error.



Showing off some of the many coats made available to area youth.

Helping Children in Need

For the third year in a row, St. Dominic Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus gave away new coats to school-aged children in the Washington area. St. Dominic’s parishioners raised \$2715, which paid for 144 new, good quality coats through the Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids program.

Last year, the Knights of Columbus donated more than 32,500 coats to children in need throughout the United States and Canada.

St. Dominic Church, which is located at 630 E St. SW, gave 60 coats directly to school-aged children in Southwest. The remainder of the coats have been donated to other organizations serving the community, including Amidon-Bowen Elementary School, Jefferson Middle School, Holy Name Church, and St. Vincent de Paul parish.

For more information, contact Cecilia Daly at [social@stdominicchurch.org](mailto:social@stdominicchurch.org) or 202-427-8914.

Southwest Real Estate Update

I don’t see a holiday slow down in these stats. Average sold price, median sold price and units sold are all up compared to November 2011. I expect this trend to continue as long as inventory remains low. (The information below is deemed reliable but not guaranteed.)

	NOVEMBER 2012	NOVEMBER 2011	% CHANGE
SOLD DOLLAR VOLUME	\$7,173,750	\$2,108,649	240.21%
AVG SOLD PRICE	\$298,906	\$263,581	13.40%
MEDIAN SOLD PRICE	\$251,500	\$205,074	22.64%
UNITS SOLD	24	8	200%
AVG DAYS ON MARKET	64	141	-54.61%
AVG LIST PRICE FOR SOLDS	\$305,013	\$260,938	16.89%
AVG SALE PRICE TO ORIGINAL LIST PRICE RATIO	96%	93.4%	2.44%

Courtesy of Jason Martin, a real estate professional & resident of Southwest. He may be contacted by phone at (202) 641-0299 or by e-mail at [jason@jasonmartingroup.com](mailto:jason@jasonmartingroup.com).

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Allen A. Flood, M.D.

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Keyla Caldwell of Graduate School USA, Triscina Gray of WHUR and Al Tyree of Graduate School USA (who is also a Southwest resident) at WHUR's live broadcast, where they discussed the initiative.

## Graduate School USA Participates in Food Drive

Courtesy of Grace Schiraldi

On Nov. 15, Graduate School USA participated in WHUR's annual Food2Feed Drive, which has helped feed needy families during the holiday season in Washington, D.C. for more than 30 years through the Capital Area Food Bank.

This successful effort was sponsored by the

School's Employee Recognition Committee. Two members of the committee appeared on WHUR's live broadcast from the Old Post Office Pavilion to talk about the initiative.

In addition to supporting the food drive, Graduate School USA also matched every non-perishable food item with a \$1 donation to the Sandy Relief Fund.

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## November and December

# ANC 6D Meeting Highlights

By B.K. Lunde

Plans for two hotels in the Wharf development were presented to the Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6D at their last meeting. These will be just northwest of 7th Street, on the waterfront, in Parcel 5 of the development. The ANC commissioners will meet with the developers over the next month to further study the plans before they vote on endorsing them at their January 14 meeting. The meeting will be at 1100 4th St. SW, on the second floor, at 7 PM. The plans will be presented to the Zoning Commission in the middle of February.

The hotels are proposed to be 110 feet high, 20 feet lower than the adjoining buildings. Neither of these hotels will have conference centers or ballrooms. One is a 245-room minimal-service nine-story hotel. The other is a 160-room, ten-story extended-stay hotel. Thirty thousand square feet of retail space are proposed on the first floor of the complex. This might include a bookstore, an antique shop, a stationery store, a bakery, dry cleaner, restaurants or bars. Two levels of parking below the hotels will be reserved for hotel guests.

Although the retail space goes almost to the next thoroughfare to the north, Jazz Alley, the upper levels of the hotel is set back from the alley creating an elevated plaza, opening the alley to light and air and allowing some view of the Washington Channel from existing buildings.

The developers will request two zoning variances for these hotels. The loading docks they propose will only accommodate 30-foot trucks, not the larger 55-foot long ones. They will also be requesting a variance on the penthouse setbacks. The normal requirement is that the penthouse be set back a distance equal to its height. Because of the design of the hotels, the penthouses, which will be on the parts of the hotels by a central plaza, will not be set back from the main building. They are also requesting that these penthouses not be set back at their ends for design reasons.

In answer to a question about the completion date of the hotels, the developers said they are hoping for some time in 2016 or 2017.

The renderings of the design of the hotels will be available in the Southwest DC Library for the public to study.

Kael Anderson, president of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, introduced Madeline Clites to ask the commissioners for an endorsement of Historic Designation for Capitol Park Towers, 301 G St. SW, and their pool house and parking structure. Capitol Park Towers was the first building in DC to have open occupancy. This was before anti-discrimination laws. Satterlee and Smith Architects designed it. Chloethiel Woodard Smith was a woman architect who brought modern architecture to Southwest DC in the early 1960's. Dan Kiley was the landscape architect. The commissioners voted unanimously to support the designation.

Ron McBee introduced a resolution to call on our DC Council member, Tommy Wells, to hold a working meeting early in 2013 to develop a Traffic Operations and Parking Plan for the baseball park. The average attendance at ball games in 2012 was 30,010. This was a 21% increase from 2011, and more people are expected this year. The Nationals had the best record in major league baseball this year. The

resolution was unanimously approved.

The commissioners also unanimously approved a resolution against "free" internet gambling for DC. The Office of the Chief Financial Officer had released a competitive bid which, on page 88, requests "option pricing for free, web based games." This ANC commission has been against this since September 12, 2011.

The commissioners endorsed the Washington Area Bicyclist Association Tour de Fat Bicycle Parade as part of their festival on June 1, 2013. This is a tour of bicycles with fat tires. About 300 bicycles will participate in the tour, as part of the 5000 people who are expected to attend the festival. It will be centered at Yards Park.

Cara Shockley was appointed to be chair of the local Alcoholic Beverage Control Board.

She and Bob Craycraft, who are leaving the ANC, were thanked for their work, especially on development, employment and environmental issues.

At the November meeting, The ANC congratulated the Jefferson Academy Middle School for winning the DC Interscholastic Athletic Association city title in football. The team was undefeated this year. This is the first time the school has won this title. It had won titles in every other sport, but this is the first time for football. Mr. Ronald E. Hines is the coach.

The apartment and retail project proposed for 1111 New Jersey Ave. SE was again not supported by the ANC. This time the vote was three to three. The architects for the developers, Frederick Hammann and Siti Abul-Rahman of WDG, had improved the project, but the commissioners did not think they met the needs of the neighborhood. This was presented to the Zoning Commission on December 10.

A proposal for paddle sports rentals, such as canoes, kayaks and paddleboards at Diamond Teague Park at the pier on 1st St. SE was unanimously supported. The pier is available for launching private boats, but it is woefully underutilized. The commission urged that a vendor would be in place by next spring.

The commissioners voted unanimously to support a request to the DC Parks and Recreation and the Department of Health to fund \$14,000 for a sand filter for the SW Duck pond. This should reduce the mosquito population and the possibility of West Nile Virus. The waterfowl population has tripled over what it was four years ago, at the beginning of the duck pond renovations.

The Commission agreed to support the Hostel, proposed for 127 Q St. SW, in its request for a two-year time extension.

The development of the Ball Park Hotel, otherwise known as the Capitol Riverfront Hotel at 1st and N St. SE was supported unanimously.

The ANC voted to support a change in the voluntary agreement of Ziegfeld's/Secrets at 1824 half St. SW, so they could serve on Mondays. New Year's Eve is on a Monday this year.

Diane Schulz gave a very uplifting review of how Sandy had treated a Manhattan development, Battery Park City, designed by the same group working on our Wharf development. The Manhattan development did not fare badly. Their mechanical systems are on the roofs, the project is a little higher than the surrounding areas, and they had a vegetative barrier from the water.



## Health and Wellness Fair Serves Dozens

By Elaine F. Graves

Nearly 70 participants attended the first-ever Community Health and Wellness Fair on Nov. 14, co-sponsored by the AARP Chapter 4751 of the Southwest Waterfront and the District of Columbia's Office on Aging, for all the residents and staff of the River Park Mutual Homes, a southwest co-op at 1301-1311 Delaware Ave. SW.

Participants visited the various exhibitors from the DC Office on Aging, the AARP's Legal Counsel for the Elderly and Breast Health care, among others. Most importantly, residents of all ages participated in various health screenings, including the 18 who had flu shots courtesy of Walgreens, the 31 who benefited from vascular screenings from the Minimally Invasive Vascular Center and the 43 who received blood pressure and blood sugar screenings from DC's Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department.

Yoga instructor Elsie Neely led participants in several chair yoga exercises. Alice A. Thompson, Com-

munity Outreach Specialist, DC Office on Aging, Aging and Disability Resource Center, welcomed all and explained the various services her department offers. Thelma Jones, a community breast care navigator for Smith Center for Healing and the Arts, spoke about her work in advocating screening and breast cancer treatment for the region's most vulnerable residents. Beryl Rice, a new member of the District of Columbia's Senior Medicare Patrol, an AARP-sponsored program, explained her role in helping to protect seniors from Medicare errors, fraud and abuse.

AARP Chapter 4751 President Evelyn Dorsey and Program Chair Betty Jean Tolbert Jones continue to receive many compliments for teaming up with DC's Office on Aging to bring comprehensive screenings and health information directly on-site to benefit the residents. Ms. Jones commented that plans are already underway with the Office on Aging to select a date for next year's health fair and to expand the health services and exhibitors.

## COMPUTERS

From p. 1

Assembly's Technology Task Force under the leadership of Perry Klein. Computer for Kids is also a wellness program: kids are provided healthy snacks and taught the benefits of healthy living under the guidance of Thelma D. Jones, YATF newly-appointed chairperson and founder and coordinator of the program.

Computer for Kids is one of SWNA-YATF's longest running and most successful programs serving our youth, second only to YATF's summer jobs program which employed more than 800 South-

west youth between the ages of 14-19 during the late 1980s to early 1990s.

But perhaps what's most remarkable is Computer for Kids' unique success in reaching across our community's notable economic and racial diversity. December's graduation was evidence of these bonds, where the students, their friends, family, instructors, honored guests and city staff convened for a common cause. When it often seems easier to build barriers and lock doors, this is the sort of community-building program that, as President of the Assembly, I'm most proud to be a part of.

■ Kael Anderson is President of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA).

## Highlights of Monthly PSA 105 Meeting

By John McGrath

Nov. 15, 2012, 7-8:00 P.M., Harbour Square Cooperative 500 N St. SW.

Participants: Lt. Nicholas Gallucci and Sgt. Michael Architzel of PSA 105, Naomi Monk and Irv Gamza, PSA 105 meeting coordinators/facilitators and John McGrath, recorder; ANC Commissioners Ron McBee (6D03) and Roger Moffatt (6D05). A total of 23 persons were in attendance.

1. Lt. Gallucci reviewed the crime statistics for the 30 day period ending October 15, 2012: (1) Assault with a Deadly Weapon (ADW) – none; (2) Robbery – 4 incidents (two juveniles were arrested recently for robbery); (3) Burglary – 5 incidents (three incidents occurred within buildings with no forced entry); (4) Theft – 12 incidents (6 incidents were within office buildings and 3 cases have been closed); (5) Theft from Auto – 8 incidents (two recent arrests of juveniles are expected to reduce these crimes); and (6) Stolen Auto – 3 incidents. In addition, an arrest for carrying a weapon was noted.

2. Discussion followed about other crime incidents, many of which do not appear to have been reported to the police. Lt. Gallucci stressed the importance of calling 911 to report all crimes such as theft of property such as bicycles and vandalism to

autos and other property. Calling 911 helps the police to establish patterns of crime for later follow-up and the deployment of resources.

3. A burglary in August 2012 at the Southwest Public Library was previously thought by police detectives to be an "inside" job. To date, that assessment has not been confirmed and the case remains open.

4. In response to questions about traffic patterns at 4th and M St. SW, police stated that there were no pedestrian fatalities in 2012. Many tickets continue to be issued for illegal left turns (4th St. SW to M St. SW going east).

5. Ron McBee reported that Safeway management is exploring improvements to store security to reduce reported shoplifting (crime of theft).

6. Concerned neighbors near O St. SW (300 O St. SW) stated that Channel Square management is attempting to deal with a few problem families that are alleged to be involved in drug-related crime. Some drug activity has shifted from the O St. circle around the corner to 3rd and P St. SW.

■ Next Meeting: Feb. 21, 7-8:30 P.M., Harbour Square, 560 N St. SW. No meetings in December or January due to proximity to the holidays and the Inauguration.

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## In Memoriam: Dr. Pearl Wisham Perry

### Courtesy of the DC Tenants' Advocacy Coalition (TENAC)

On Nov. 27, 2012, TENAC was proud to receive a signal honor from the Waterside Towers Residents Association (WRTA) when its distinguished President, Tyrone Ron Jackson, presented TENAC with a \$1,000 contribution given in memory of Pearl Wisham Perry, a legendary resident benefactor and officer of the Waterside Association for many years and a notable figure in D.C. public life.

The grant was also given in support of TENAC's core mission in support of rent control, affordable housing and tenants' rights, and as an acknowledgement of TENAC's resounding success as the lead tenant organization in the District, representing all who live in rental housing – fully two-thirds of the city's population.

Waterside Towers is a bellwether tenant association, and recently celebrated its 40th Anniversary under the excellent leadership of Ron Jackson. At the Nov. 27 meeting both Mr. Jackson and Jim McGrath eulogized Pearl Perry for the extraordinary woman she was. Rightly celebrated for legendary accomplishments, including a PhD with honors from Columbia University, a stellar career at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), where she advanced the causes of medicine and science, and in the community at large, where she was involved in local theater and opera, and where she also played an active role as a prominent member of the Democratic Party as a confidant of successive mayors and Council Members.

Pearl Perry's affiliation with TENAC was also exceptional. She was not only a founding member of the organization, but served on the TENAC Board of Directors from its

inception until her untimely death just over a year ago. There she was an ardent supporter of TENAC's mission as well as TENAC's signal accomplishments over the years, including the successful lobbying for creation of an independent District agency pursuing tenant protection and rights – the Office of Tenant Advocate (OTA) under the outstanding leadership of Johanna Shreve – TENAC's origination and successful advocacy for extension of the Rent Control Law from 5 to 10 years, and our current campaign to eliminate the "plus 2" from the "CPI + 2 percent" rent-increase "rip-off" formula.

We often hear of the "Renaissance Man," recognized for outstanding achievement, but too seldom of the "Renaissance Woman." Dr. Pearl Wisham Perry fit that role to a T and the community at large as well as all who knew her are the richer for it.

## Community Calendar

View our on-line calendar at [www.swdc.org/calendar](http://www.swdc.org/calendar).

### JANUARY

**THURS 3, 8 A.M.-9:30 A.M.**, Councilman Tommy Wells office hours, Channel Inn café, 7th & Water Street S.W.

**SAT 5, 4 P.M.-5:30 P.M.**, Experience Yoga Nidra: Westminster "Jazz" Church, 400 I Street, SW. Pamela Wilson guides a very deep, conscious relaxation with the opportunity to set your intention. No experience in Yoga or meditation necessary. A donation of \$10 is suggested. For more information call 202-746-6654 or email email: wilsonpj108@verizon.net.

**SAT 12, 10:30 A.M.** Family Storytime, SW Library, 900 Wesley Pl. S.W.

**MON 14, 7 P.M.-10 P.M.**, ANC6D Monthly Public Meeting, 1100 4th St. S.W., DCRA Hearing, Room on 2nd floor

**WED 16, NOON**, AARP-Southwest Waterfront Chapter 4751, Luncheon Meeting. Programs for 2013 will be discussed. Current AARP members and new prospective members are welcomed. River Park Mutual Homes community room, 1311 Delaware Ave., S.W. For further information, contact Chapter President Evelyn Dorsey, Dorseydear@aol.com or 202-488-9685.

**WED 16, 11:30 A.M.-1:30 P.M.**, Capitol Riverfront BID annual meeting and release of the 2012 Annual Report and State of the Capitol Riverfront, 1015 Half St. SE, 10th floor.

**WED 16, 6 P.M.**, SW ArtsFest 2013, Board of Directors meeting, St. Augustine's Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall, 600 M St. SW. The Board will meet to plan SW ArtsFest 2013 and invites the community to attend its planning meeting. For more information, call 202-320-0286 or email swartsfest@gmail.com.

**SAT 19, 1 P.M.**, Kitchen Table Book Discussion, SW Library, 900 Wesley Pl. S.W. Copies of January selection 'Letter from a Birmingham Jail' by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. are available for checkout at the library.

**MON 28, 7 P.M.-8:30 P.M.**, SWNA Meeting, 600 M Street S.W.

### WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY

**AEROBICS WITH MS. DEE, 6:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M.**, Mondays and Thursdays, at King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N Street S.W. FREE

**BLUES MONDAYS, 6 P.M. – 9 P.M.**, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I Street S.W., Various Blue musicians and singers featured each Monday. \$5. Food for sale.

**COMPUTER CLASSES, THURSDAY 10 A.M.-12 Noon**, SW Library, 900 Wesley Pl. S.W.

**THURS 3 EMAIL BASICS**

**THURS 10 MICROSOFT WORD**

**THURS 17 MICROSOFT EXCEL**

**THURS 24 & 31ST NO CLASS SCHEDULED**

**FEB. 7 MICROSOFT POWERPOINT**

**GIRL SCOUTS TROOP #4298**, Wednesdays, 5:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M., ages 5 to 12. King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N Street S.W. Call: 202-570-4475, Email: girlscoutsswdc@gmail.com

**HAND DANCING CLASSES**, Saturdays, 12 P.M.-2 P.M., Jitterbug, Lindy Hop, Classes by Markus Smith of Swing Anatomy Dance. \$10/class for adults, \$5/class for children 8-17. Christ United Methodists Church, 900 Fourth S.W., Community room off Wesley Place, S.W.

**HAND DANCING CLASSES**, 12:30 P.M.-3:30 P.M., Mr. Zeke is teaching 18 years and older, King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N Street S.W. FREE

**JAZZ NIGHT IN SW**, Fridays, 6 P.M.-9 P.M. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I Street S.W. Various Jazz musicians and singers featured each Friday. \$5. Food for sale.

**THE KIWANIS CLUB OF SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT**, 6:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M., every first and third Monday, Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth Street S.W.,

**POLICE SERVICE AREA 105**, Community meeting, 7-8:30 P.M., every Third Thursdays, location announced at previous meeting. No meeting in

January due to the Inauguration.

**POLICE SERVICE AREA 106**, Community meeting, 10 A.M.-11 A.M., every Last Saturday, Senior Citizen Community Room 900 5th Street S.E.

**PRE SCHOOL STORYTIME, 10:30 A.M.-11:30 A.M.**, Tuesdays and Thursdays, SW Library, 900 Wesley Place S.W.

**SEATED YOGA**, 11:00 A.M.-12 P.M., Mondays, at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Pamela Wilson guides a gentle series of movements designed to free the joints and ease the mind. This is an extension of Westminster's Wellness Wednesday program.

**SOUTHWEST RENEWAL AA**, Alcoholics Anonymous group, 8:30 P.M., Mondays, St. Augustine's Church, 600 M Street S.W., (202) 554-3222

**SOUTHWEST SEWING GROUP**, 9:30 A.M.-2:30 P.M., Mondays, St. Augustine's Church, 600 M Street S.W., Contact Mary Henderson at (301) 336-9058. Open to all interested in working on their own sewing projects and/or machine sewing skills. Mondays, except June, July and August.

**SW FREEWAY, NA**, 7 P.M.-8 P.M., Narcotics Anonymous group, Wednesdays, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I Street S.W.

**WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB**, 7 P.M.-9 P.M., First and Third Wednesday each month. Buy, trade and sell stamps Refreshments, auctions and programs. Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth Street S.W. 202-863-0564

**WEDNESDAY EVENING CHESS**, 6:30 P.M.-8:30 P.M., SW Library, 900 Wesley Place S.W.

**WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS**, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I Street S.W., 4 p.m. Seated Yoga and Healing Sessions (Pamela Wilson and Riva Wine). 5 p.m. Tai Chi (Manifest Ra). 5:30 p.m. Laughter Yoga (Claire Trivedi). 6:45 p.m. Sampoorna Yoga (Alex Rosen). 7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous SW Free-Way Meeting

■ Please submit calendar items by the 13th day of the preceding month to [calendar@thesouthwester.com](mailto:calendar@thesouthwester.com).

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The undefeated Jefferson Trojans, DC's middle school football champions. (Photo by E. Gyles)

## Jefferson Trojans: City-Wide Football Champions

By Ronald Hines

On Nov. 15, the Jefferson Middle School Trojans football team won the City-Wide DCIAA middle schools championship title by defeating Kramer Middle School 21-13. This was the culmination of an undefeated season with a 10-0 record. This was the school's first ever city championship for foot-

ball. It was also the first time a West Division football team had won the championship over an East Division team in many years.

The Trojans are led by Head Coach Ronald E. Hines, Sr. His coaching staff includes Shawn Hart, Mark Collins and Michael Hines. Coach Hines came to Jefferson in 2006, and over that seven year period Jefferson football has a record of 80 wins and only 9 losses, a fantastic record.

The Trojans are always considered the team to beat. Almost every year the Trojans have been in the championship game, but until this year the title has always eluded them. NO MORE!

Jefferson MS football program wishes to thank all the parents, teachers, principal and the community for all the support they have provided to the school.

## Notes On The Nats

### Too Much Talent To Keep It All???

By Zev Feder

Last year it was Strasburg. Shut him down at 160 innings or let him pitch through the playoffs? That was the pre-season quandary that never went away.

This season's dilemma will resolve, one way or the other, between now and the start of spring training. What do you do with Michael Morse if Adam LaRoche returns to the Nationals?

The Nats have too many good players.

They are too big for their britches.

Their cup runneth over.

When the Washington Nationals traded a highly regarded minor league pitching prospect for Center Fielder Denard Span, they added a speedy, leadoff-hitting CF that filled a long-missing link in the roster. GM Mike Rizzo has continuously coveted a true CF with range in the outfield that could also hit first in the lineup: a fast-running on-base machine. Span is that puzzle piece. He is an excellent defensive outfielder, rarely strikes out, and fits the leadoff spot well. Acquiring him also gives us an exceptional defensive outfield, with Bryce Harper moving to right field and Jayson Werth in left field. Plenty of speed, Harper's arm in right, and good gloves everywhere.

But where does that leave Morse, their 30-homerun, .300-hitting slugger?

If Adam LaRoche gets lured away in free agency by a longer contract commitment than the Nats are willing to offer him (say an extra 10 to 15 million dollar season), Morse will slide back into his best defensive spot, first base, and the lineup logjam is resolved. But if LaRoche re-ups here to help Davey Johnson end his career pursuing the 2013 World Series Championship for DC, here is my suggestion:

Don't trade Morse. The 25-man roster for 2013 will be amazing, 1 through 25. This is an opportunity for an historic season and Davey Johnson is just the man to make it happen. Like this:

Pencil in five players as starters in four positions and use the extra man to give everyone a regular day of recuperation but still available

on the bench. In addition to Michael Morse and Adam LaRoche at first base, Jayson Werth, Denard Span and Bryce Harper can complete a 1B-outfield four-position unit. And the 80% playing time for each is increased, again, when Morse can serve as designated hitter for games played in American League ballparks.

The alternative is to trade Morse, possibly for minor league prospects. That would mean the trade that brought Denard Span here will have given us a great defensive outfield and more speed in the lineup, but less power. Morse can flat-out hit and I fully expect him to surpass his 31-homerun 2011 season.

Over a six-month, 162-game span, injuries

and slumps happen. We would miss Morse badly then. Keep the Beast.

The same principle can be applied in the infield to keep everyone fresh and involved. The Nationals have four infielders – Ryan Zimmerman, Ian Desmond, Danny Espinosa and Steve Lombardozzi – that produce at a high level. Rotating in a day of partial rest for each could have a big payoff physically over the course of the season.

Davey, what do you think?

■ Zev Feder is a long-time Southwest resident with a life-long passion for baseball as a player, coach and, above all, fan.



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## Portrait Painter to be Featured at Coffeehouse

By Elaine F. Graves

The Art & Spirit Coffeehouse presents a program with portrait painter Jill Cohen on Wednesday, Jan. 2, at 7 p.m. at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St. SW. After 30 years with a studio in Alexandria's Torpedo Factory,



Jill Cohen

Jill Cohen estimates she's painted hundreds of portraits and shown her work in numerous shows and exhibitions. Married with two small children, she wanted to continue the art career she'd started with her degree from the University of Illinois.

Her interest in portraiture seemed to provide the answer. Pastel and watercolor were manageable media and these projects were often pre-sold. She never looked back. Recent changes at the Torpedo Factory led Ms. Cohen to close her studio there, and she's taking it a little easier now, but still painting. She'll show examples of her work and talk about the technique of the portrait painter.

Working mostly from photographs, she enjoys this part of the process and has recently been enthusiastically working in Landscape photography.

Come and join us for an evening of wonderful stories and some insight into this elusive art form.

The Southwest Episcopal Church's Art & Spirit Coffeehouse series opens on the first Wednesday of each month to showcase local artists in their various media as they perform and share how their faith, art and social worldview intersect, according to the Rev. Martha Clark, Priest-in-Charge at St. Augustine's. Donations will be accepted to help provide honoraria for the guest artists. Contact [rector@staugustinesdc.org](mailto:rector@staugustinesdc.org), 202-554-3222 or visit [www.staugustinesdc.org](http://www.staugustinesdc.org) for further information.



## Thankful for Their Service

Arena Stage Artistic Director Molly Smith greets some of the 200 attendees at the annual Thanksgiving dinner for military personnel and their families, which included a complimentary performance of *My Fair Lady* on Nov. 23. (Photo by Kevin Allen)

## SW ArtsFest Announces Date for 2013

By David Sobelsohn

SW ArtsFest has big plans for 2013. SW ArtsFest 2012 saw a huge attendance increase over 2011. Highlights this past year included the first-ever SW ArtsFest Central Art Market, a parade of decorated bicycles, hand dancing at Arena Stage, sock puppets on the Waterfront, an end-of-summer fair, neighborhood walking tours, a film series, the 11th Annual DC Jazz Preservation Festival and an opera simulcast at Nationals Park. Admission, as always, was free.

At its December 2012 meeting, the SW ArtsFest board scheduled SW ArtsFest 2013 for Saturday, Sept. 28, with the option of additional activities both Friday and Sunday. Many

2012 participants will return. Look for an even bigger Central Art Market, an even more spectacular bicycle parade, more from Arena Stage and more jazz.

On Wednesday, Jan. 16, at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St. SW, the SW ArtsFest board will meet to plan SW ArtsFest 2013. The board invites the community to attend its planning meeting. A successful SW ArtsFest 2013 will require participation from many Southwest residents, not just members of the board. For more information, call 202-320-0286 or email [swartsfest@gmail.com](mailto:swartsfest@gmail.com).

■ David Sobelsohn was an ANC Commissioner from 2005-11 and is one of the organizers of SW ArtsFest.

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